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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/394,712	09/13/1999	ROBERT W. ESMOND	0609.4440002	4740
7590 10/08/2004				
ROBERT W. ESMOND 302 BLAIR COURT, N.W. VIENNA, VA 22180		EXAMINER KIM, VICKIE Y		
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER.
		1614		

DATE MAILED: 10/08/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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09/394,712

Sep. 13, 1999

Esmond et al

EXAMINER

V. Kim

ART UNIT

PAPER

1614

20041005

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

**VICKIE KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER**Vickie Kim
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 1614

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application

1. Acknowledgement is made of amendment filed June 09, 2004. Upon entering the amendment, the claims 23-24, 28-29, 31 and 33 are amended and the claims 1-22, 25-27, 30, 32 and 34-35 are canceled.

The claims 23-24, 28-29, 31 and 33 are pending and presented for the examination.

Information Disclosure Statement(IDS)

The information disclosure statement (IDS) is submitted on June 09, 2004. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner. Since European search report is not a reference(document), it should not be included in PTO-1449. Therefore, the citation is not considered and has been properly marked with line crossed. Please refer to applicants' copy of the 1449 submitted herewith.

Conclusion

1. All pending claims 23-24, 28-29, 31 and 33 are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, ex parte prosecution is remained as SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF 6 MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vickie Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-0579. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday.

Art Unit: 1614

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Low be reached on 571-272-0953. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VICKIE KIM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Vickie Kim
April 6, 2004
Primary Patent examiner
Art 1614